

Program Notice

FGIS-PN-01-03

5-1-01

CERTIFYING WHEAT PROTEIN ON MOISTURE BASIS OTHER THAN 12.0 PERCENT

1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this notice is to announce that on May 1, 2001, the Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA) will begin to certify wheat protein content on any specified moisture basis requested by an applicant, **in addition** to certifying results on the current 12.0 percent moisture basis.

2. EFFECTIVE DATE

This action is effective May 1, 2001.

3. BACKGROUND

Implementation of the current 12.0 percent mandatory moisture basis requirement for protein analysis in wheat on May 1, 1987, appears to not have fully facilitated the marketing of export wheat, even though wheat protein measurement was standardized. A number of importers of U.S. wheat have requested that GIPSA provide an option to certify wheat protein content results on any specified moisture basis requested by applicants, in addition to certifying results on the current 12.0 percent moisture basis.

To address this concern, GIPSA published a Notice in the October 1, 1998, *Federal Register* [63 FR 52681] that solicited comments on a proposal to introduce flexible certification in our protein testing program, in addition to maintaining the standardization of results. It is believed that allowing certification on the 12.0 percent moisture basis, and including the option to also certify on a moisture basis requested by the applicant, would provide sufficient information on the inspection certificate to facilitate the marketing of wheat. Although this certification option was developed to address an export market need, it is believed that this option could be used for domestic shipments as well. This would be especially true in situations when an exporter is originating wheat to fulfill an export contract that requires a moisture basis other than 12.0 percent. Therefore, this certification option would be available from GIPSA field offices, delegated States, and designated agencies.

GIPSA published another Notice in the November 3, 2000, *Federal Register* [65 FR 66228] that provided final notification that on May 1, 2001, GIPSA will begin certifying protein content in wheat using the current 12.0 percent moisture basis and any other moisture basis requested by an applicant.

4. CONVERTING RESULTS

a. Conversion Formula.

GIPSA field offices, delegated States, and designated agencies are responsible for converting official protein results (12.0 percent moisture basis) to an alternate basis (if requested by the applicant) using the following formula:

$$A = \frac{P \times (100 - M)}{88}$$

Where A = Percent protein on an alternate moisture basis.

P = NIRT protein result on the 12.0 percent moisture basis (based on NIRT result rounded to the nearest tenth percent).

M = Moisture basis specified by the applicant.

(Use the "official" moisture results if the applicant requests protein content certified on an "as-is" basis)

For example, if an applicant requested a protein result certified on a dry matter basis (0.0 percent moisture basis) and the protein content of the lot was determined to be 13.5 percent on a 12.0 percent moisture basis, the protein on a dry matter basis would be equal to 15.3 percent.

$$A = \frac{13.5 \times (100 - 0)}{88} = \frac{1350}{88} = 15.3$$

To assist inspection personnel in calculating protein conversions, protein/moisture scale conversion "wheels" have been purchased and are being distributed to FGIS field offices and official inspection agencies.

b. Conversion Guidelines for Submitted Samples and Single Lot Inspections.

For submitted samples and single lots, use the official moisture result for the lot if the applicant requests an "as-is" moisture basis.

c. Conversion Guidelines for Sublot Testing.

- (1) When sublot testing is performed on unit trains, lash barges, or ships inspected as single lots, and the applicant **does not** specify limits for protein content on an alternate moisture basis, record individual sublot results and calculate CuSum values on the basis of the standard 12.0 percent moisture basis. Upon completion of loading, convert the final average protein result to the specified moisture basis. For an "as-is" moisture basis, use the official average moisture result in the conversion formula.
- (2) If a load order specifies limits on the protein content on a specified moisture basis, convert the individual sublot protein results to the desired moisture basis. For an "as-is" moisture basis, use the official sublot moisture result in the conversion formula.

Using two separate columns on the loading log, record the individual sublot results (from the 12.0 percent basis and specified moisture basis) and apply the CuSum loading plan information (e.g., breakpoints, starting values) to the specified moisture basis results column.

Upon completion of the lot, average the protein results in the 12.0 moisture basis column and convert this value to the applicable protein value on the specified moisture basis. For an "as-is" moisture basis, use the official average moisture result in the conversion formula.

Enter the converted protein value as the final "average" under the specified moisture basis column (protein results) on the log. **Do not average results from the specified moisture column to obtain a "final" specified moisture basis result.**

5. **CERTIFICATION STATEMENTS**

a. 12.0 Percent Moisture Basis Only.

Protein results determined **only** on the 12.0 percent basis are certified with the following statement:

"Protein _____ %, 12.0% moisture basis."

b. 12.0 Percent and Specified Moisture Basis.

Protein results determined on the 12.0 percent basis and an alternate moisture basis are certified with the following statements:

"Protein content _____ %, (requested) moisture basis, which converts to protein (_____), 12.0% moisture basis. Protein content reported on an alternative moisture basis in addition to the U.S. standard 12.0 percent moisture basis at applicant's request."

Using the example in item 4a above, where a protein result of 13.5 percent (12.0 percent moisture basis) was converted to 15.3 percent (dry matter basis), the following statement would be shown on the certificate:

"Protein 15.3%, dry matter basis, which converts to protein 13.5%, 12.0% moisture basis. Protein content reported on an alternative moisture basis in addition to the U.S. standard 12.0 percent moisture basis at applicant's request."

6. FILING INSTRUCTIONS

File a copy of this notice in Book IV, Chapter 3 of the Grain Inspection Handbook, and Chapter 4 of the NIRT Handbook until the handbooks are updated to reflect the policy changes.

7. QUESTIONS

Please direct any questions to the Policies and Procedures Branch at (202) 720-0252.

/s/ David Orr

David Orr, Director
Field Management Division